

New Bedford Feb 29th 1890
Saturday morn

Dear Anne,

Mr Rodman has just sent in word that his son is going to Boston in the noon stage & will take bundle or letter, so I hasten to write. I am sorry that the sheet is not done to send, for I shall not probably have another opportunity till a week from Monday. Your package came safely by Abby, the stockings suited exactly. You mention our colour petition every time you write — I forgot to tell you that it went a great while ago — & for sending it to Bradburn, I never had any thoughts of it. It was sent to Isaac Baker — his own mother heading it — whether he was in town to present it I don't know. What you said about the committee's reporting hurried us very much. I could only get 25 names to the women's petition — but I could have got no more I think, if I had had ever so much time. William Coffin got a good many more to the men's petition — many signing it were not abolitionists. I am very busy now with the "gay" petition. There are about 250 names I suppose on the men's precisely any one re-fusing — I have got 82 to the women's & every one of them I got with my own feet & hands — Isaac Baker & the others sick — I have calculated that I walk at the rate of 21 miles a week — Elizabeth Doubleday came back with Abby, to make a visit at Mrs. Emerson

in the course of her visitations, she was at
Boylston about the time of our fair — That
famous bed quilt was made up there &
a dreadful fight they had about it — Mrs
Sandford, the orthodox ministers wife, clerical
of course, was very earnest to have it go
to the Boston Female, but the old organization
among whom were Miss D's relations de-
clared that if it were so disposed of, every
stitch which they set (& they had set a good
many) should come out — Resolution like
that generally carries the day, & so we got
the bed quilt. I am petitioning all about town
just where I please. I went to Mrs Smith's,
Dr Woods daughter & successor to the Holmes.
She refused — then I went to the Baptist-
ministers, Jacksons, & brother to Phoebe Jackson
of Providence. Nothing could be more agree-
able than both he & his wife were. She
signed — He said a package had been
sent to him from Boston for the Female
A. S. S. & would take charge of it. I took it &
said nothing though it was directed to the
N. B. female abolition Soc. from the Boston
Female A. S. S. As soon as I got home I
made into it — It was a thick bundle of
Mass Abs containing that and ^{your} me to attend
account of the meeting. This was my advice
as to the disposition of it & what I think we
shall do. Elizabeth Baker, ^(the serv) will write a polite note
saying this package had been sent to us & that
we had made enquiry for the Ab Soc. & could not

find that any such society existed in
N.B. therefore not knowing what other
disposition to make of it we return it to
the Boston Female. Don't you think that
it will be the best way. But who shall
we direct it to? Miss Parker — Let me
know your views on this subject —
Our box money has done remarkably
well — I calculate we shall have about
\$20 for the month. That is doing well I
think, \$5 only for last month — Rodney
French says a box puts down a new
organiser quicker than any thing,
they can't say a word in a house
where they see a chaste box — The
money will come up Monday I suppose
& I will write again by that — L. also to
Lucia — Elizabeth Doubleday says that
they say among her relations at Roxbury
that the Lurvey family are so ashamed
of Edmund that they don't speak of him
& that they feel very bad about it —

Miss Doubleday gave it to the Miss
Sildens who are keeping school ^{on the plain} out there,
famously. Stephen Weld, is her cousin &
she was staying there. His life is almost
plagued out with this girls school. Miss
Silden all last winter gave a party to her
girls every two or three weeks, inviting all
the boys at Mr Greens & Mr Welds school —
&c. One of the older Miss Sildens got to laughing
so in church one Sunday that Dr. Pierce who

was preaching thought they were laughing at
 him - was dreadful mad - I said Miss
 Elders aunt was a member of his church
 & she should know of it - In the course of
 the week the aunt came out - & there had
 been a manifest improvement since C. D.
 said she saw the laughing with her own
 eyes

The above good as to the ground
 corner near Mrs. Knowlton & the
 way as

The
 Feb 29th 1840
 Maria W. Chapman
 11 West Street
 Boston
 Rodman

MSA. 9.2.13.31

This afternoon I shall go foraging all the
 afternoon - the small box has broken
 out here afresh & a man opposite the
 mansion house died with it yesterday
 It is said he was brother of the late early
 Brown's in Boston - in great haste even the